

DIRECTIONS
OF THE *191*
LORDS and COMMONS
Assembled in
PARLIAMENT.

After advice had with the Assembly
of Divines, for the electing and choosing of
RULING-ELDERS in all the
Congregations, and in the Classicall Assemblies
for the Cities of *London* and
Westminster, and the severall Counties
of the Kingdom:
For the speedy setting of the
Presbyteriall-Government.

Die Martis 19 August. 1645.

ORdered by the **LORDS** Assembled in Parliament, That
these Directions for electing of Elders in particular
Congregations, and Classicall Assemblies, be forthwith printed
and published.

Joh. Brown Cler. Parliamentorum.

London printed for *Iohn Wright* at the Kings
Head in the old Bayley. 1645.

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Die Martis, 19 Augusti. 1645.

DIRECTIONS FOR THE Election of Elders.

I
That the Ruling Elders of a Parochiall and congregationall Eldership shall be chosen by the severall Ministers, and members of their Congregation respectively, being such as have taken the Nationall Covenant, and are not persons under age, nor servants that have no families.

2. That notice of such election, and of the day when it shall be given by the Minister in the publique assembly the next Lords day but one before, and on that said Lords day a Sermon be preached preparatoty to that weighty businesse.

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3. That no man be chosen for a Ruling-Elder but onely for one Congregation, and that in the place where his most settled dwelling and imployment doth lie.

4. That it shall be lawfull for the Congregation respectively, or any other persons to exhibite exceptions against any person elected as aforesaid, touching the right of his election, or touching matter of ignorance, or scandall, hereafter mentioned, within fourteene daies next after the said election to such persons, Ministers, and others, as shall be appointed by Authority of Parliament, to receive the said exceptions, which said persons shall have power to receive, heare, and determine all complaints against any Elder of ignorance and scandall, within the description of ignorance and scandall hereafter mentioned.

And shall have power to approve the person so elected, in case no just exception, as aforesaid, shall be proved against him. But if he shall upon just prooffe be found ignorant or scandalous, as aforesaid, then to remove him. And if any of the said Elders shall be adjudged to be removed, as aforesaid, then another shall be chosen in his place, as aforesaid.

5. That

5. That such shall be chosen for Ruling Elders as are men of good understanding in matters of Religion, sound in the faith, prudent, discreet, grave, and of unblameable conversation. And willing to undergoe the said Office.

6. That all parishes and places whatsoever, (as well priviledged places, and exempt jurisdictions, as others) be brought under the government of Congregationall, Classicall, Provinciall, and Nationall Assemblies. Provided. that the Chappels or places in the houses of the Peeres of this Realme shall continue free for the exercise of Divine duties, to be performed according to the Directory..

7. That the Chappell of the Rolles, the two Serjeants Innes, and the foure Innes of Court, shall be each of them a Congregationall Presbytery within themselves, and make a Classicall Presbytery in the whole.

8. That the Province of London shall be divided into twelve Classicall Eldershops according to the distributions hereafter following :

The first Classis to containe :

A	<i>Lhallowes Breadstreet,</i>	<i>Anne Black Friers,</i>
	<i>Andrewes Wardrope,</i>	<i>Austins Parish,</i>
		<i>Bennet</i>

<i>Bennet Pauls wharfe,</i>	<i>Mary Aldermary,</i>
<i>Faiths,</i>	<i>Mary le Bow,</i>
<i>Gregories,</i>	<i>Matthew Fridaystreet,</i>
<i>John Evangelist,</i>	<i>Mildreds Breadstreet,</i>
<i>Margaret Moses,</i>	<i>Pauls,</i>
<i>Martin Ludgate,</i>	<i>Peters Pauls wharfe.</i>

The second Classis to containe :

<i>Anthomes vulgo An-</i>	<i>Mary Mounthaunt vul-</i>
<i>thelms,</i>	<i>go Mounthaw.</i>
<i>Bennet Sherehogge.</i>	<i>Michael Queene Hithe,</i>
<i>James Garlickhithe,</i>	<i>Michael Royall,</i>
<i>John Baptists,</i>	<i>Nicholas old Abby,</i>
<i>Martin in the Vintry,</i>	<i>Nicholas Olaves,</i>
<i>Mary Magdalen old fish-</i>	<i>Pancret Soperlane,</i>
<i>street,</i>	<i>Thomas Apostle,</i>
<i>Mary Somerset,</i>	<i>Trinity Parish.</i>

The third Classis to containe :

<i>Alballowes the greater,</i>	<i>Mary Botham,</i>
<i>Alballowes the lesse,</i>	<i>Mary Woolchurch,</i>
<i>Alballowes Lumberstreet,</i>	<i>Mary Woolnoth,</i>
<i>Edmunds Lumberstreet,</i>	<i>Nicholas Aron,</i>
<i>Lawrence Pountney,</i>	<i>Stephens in Walbrook,</i>
<i>Mary Abchurch,</i>	<i>Swithens,</i>

The

The fourth Classis to containe :

<i>Andrew Hubbert,</i>	<i>Magnus,</i>
<i>Bennet Grace-church,</i>	<i>Margaret New-fishstreet,</i>
<i>Buttolph Billingsgate,</i>	<i>Martin Orgars,</i>
<i>Clements in Eastcheape,</i>	<i>Maryhill,</i>
<i>Dionis Backchurch,</i>	<i>Michael Crookedlane.</i>
<i>George Buttolph-lane,</i>	<i>Michael Cornhill,</i>
<i>Leonard in Eastcheape,</i>	<i>Peters Cornhill.</i>

The fifth Classis to containe :

<i>Anne Aldersgate,</i>	<i>Mary Staynings,</i>
<i>Buttolph Aldersgate,</i>	<i>Michael in the Corne,</i>
<i>Brides,</i>	<i>vulgo in the Querne,</i>
<i>Bridewell,</i>	<i>Olaves Silverstreet,</i>
<i>Christchurch,</i>	<i>Peters Cheape,</i>
<i>John Zachary,</i>	<i>Pedast, alias Fosters.</i>
<i>Leonard Fosterlane,</i>	

The sixth Classis to containe :

<i>Albanes Woodstreet,</i>	<i>Mary Aldermanbury,</i>
<i>Alballowes Honi-lane,</i>	<i>Marymaudlins Milkstreet</i>
<i>Alphage,</i>	<i>Mary Colechurch,</i>
<i>Giles Creeplegate,</i>	<i>Michael in Woodstreet,</i>
<i>James Chappell,</i>	<i>Mildred in the Poultry,</i>
<i>Laurence in the Jury,</i>	<i>Olives in the Jewry.</i>
<i>Martin in Fremngerlane,</i>	

The

The seventh Classis to containe :

<i>Alballowes by the Wall,</i>	<i>Margaret Lothbury,</i>
<i>Bartholmew Exchange,</i>	<i>Michael Bafhinshaw,</i>
<i>Bennet Fynck,</i>	<i>Peter Poore,</i>
<i>Buttolph Bishopsgate,</i>	<i>Stevens Colemanstreet.</i>
<i>Christophers,</i>	

The eight Classis to containe ;

<i>Andrew Undershaft,</i>	<i>Katherine Cree-Church,</i>
<i>Buttolph Algate,</i>	<i>Leonard Shoreditch,</i>
<i>Ethelburge,</i>	<i>Martins Oteswich, vulgo</i>
<i>Hackney,</i>	<i>Outwich.</i>
<i>Hellens,</i>	<i>Mary Newington, alias</i>
<i>James Dukes-place,</i>	<i>Soke Newington.</i>

The ninth Classis to containe :

<i>Alballowes Barkin,</i>	<i>Olaves Hartstreet,</i>
<i>Alballowes Stanings,</i>	<i>Peters in the Tower,</i>
<i>Dunstons in the East,</i>	<i>Stepney,</i>
<i>Gabriel Fenchurch,</i>	<i>Trinity Minories,</i>
<i>Katherine Coleman,</i>	<i>Wapping,</i>
<i>Katherine Tower,</i>	<i>Whitechappell.</i>
<i>Margaret Pattons,</i>	

The tenth Classis to containe :

<i>George Southwarke,</i>	<i>Newington Buts,</i>
<i>Lambeth,</i>	<i>Olives Southwarke,</i>
<i>Mary Magdalen</i>	<i>Rotherhithe vulgo Redriff</i>
<i>Bermondsey,</i>	<i>Thomas Hospitall,</i>
<i>Mary Overs,</i>	<i>Thomas Southwarke,</i>

The eleventh Classis to containe :

<i>Clemnets Daves,</i>	<i>Newchurch,</i>
<i>Giles in the Fields,</i>	<i>Peters Westminster,</i>
<i>Knightsbridge,</i>	<i>Pauls chappell in covert</i>
<i>Margaret Westminster,</i>	<i>Garden.</i>
<i>Martins in the Fields.</i>	

The twelfth Classis to containe :

<i>Andrew Holborne,</i>	<i>Dunstones in the West,</i>
<i>Bartholmew the greater,</i>	<i>James Clarkenwell,</i>
<i>Bartholmew the lesse,</i>	<i>Mary Islington,</i>
<i>Charterhouse,</i>	<i>Sepulchers.</i>

9. That all the severall Parishes and Places within the Cities of London and Westminster, and the parts adjacent, according as they are distinguished into twelve severall Classis, shall

be the extent and bounds of the Province of London.

Concerning the members of the Classicall and Congregationall Assemblies in the severall Counties.

That in the severall Counties certain persons, Ministers, and others, shall be appointed by authority of Parliament, who shall consider how their severall Counties respectively may be most conveniently divided into distinct classicall Presbyteries, and what Ministers and others are fit to be of each Classis. And they shall accordingly make such division, and nomination of persons for each classicall Presbytery, which Divisions, and persons so named for every Division shall be certified up to the Parliament. That the Chancellors, Vice-chancellors, and heads of the Universties shall consider how the Colledges may be most conveniently put into classicall Presbyteries, and doe certifie the same up unto the Parliament.

And the said severall Classis respectively being approved by Parliament within their severall Precincts shall have power to constitute Congregationall Elderships where a competent number of persons so qualified for Elders, as afore-

foresaid, shall be found. And where no persons shall be found fit to be Elders, as aforesaid, then that Congregation shall be immediately under the Classicall Presbytery, untill that congregation shall be enabled with members fit to be Elders, as aforesaid.

The congregational Assembly shall meet once every weeke, and oftner if occasion shall serve.

The classicall Assembly shall meet once every moneth.

Concerning members of the Provinciall Assembly.

THe Provinciall Assembly shall be constituted of members sent from every Classis within the Province.

The number of the members sent from each Classis shall be so proportioned, as that the Provinciall Assembly may be more in number then any Classicall Presbytery within that Province. And to that end there shall be at least two Ministers, and foure Ruling Elders out of every Classis. And that where there shall be need, the number may be increased, as to the persons appointed for the bounding of the Provinciall Assembly shall seem meet. Provided, that the
number

number doe not exceed nine of each, Ministers and Ruling-Elders, from any one Classis. And that there alwaies be two Ruling-Elders to one Minister. That the Provinciaall Assembly being constituted, shall meet twice every yeere, the first meeting shall be determined by the persons appointed for the bounding of the Provinciaall and Classicall Assemblies.

Concerning the Nationall Assembly.

That the Nationall assembly shall be constituted of members sent from the severall Provinces aforesaid, the number of the members from each Province to the Nationall Assembly shall be two Ministers, and foure Ruling-Elders. The Nationall Assembly is to meet when they shall be summoned by Parliament, and to sit and continue as the Parliament shall order, and not otherwise.

FINIS.